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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

ZHOU, TING

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 01/30/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/872,893	DOUGLIS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ting Zhou	2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-8, 11-19, 21-24, 27-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 9, 10, 20, 25 and 26 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper content of an abstract of the disclosure.

A patent abstract is a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent and should include that which is new in the art to which the invention pertains. If the patent is of a basic nature, the entire technical disclosure may be new in the art, and the abstract should be directed to the entire disclosure. If the patent is in the nature of an improvement in an old apparatus, process, product, or composition, the abstract should include the technical disclosure of the improvement. If the new technical disclosure involves modifications or alternatives, the abstract should mention by way of example the preferred modification or alternative.

The abstract should not refer to purported merits or speculative applications of the invention and should not compare the invention with the prior art.

The abstract is objected to because the phrase "reducing clutter and providing visual feedback to a user" on line 3 states the speculative merits of the invention.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 4, 9-10, 20 and 25-26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-3, 5-8, 11, 15-19, 21-24, 27 and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Logan et al. U.S. Patent 5,761,683.

Referring to claims 1 and 17, Logan et al. teach a computer-implemented method and medium of displaying an anchor (link) on a web page (hypertext display unit recited in column 1, line 61), comprising the steps of displaying a first web page on a display screen, wherein the first web page comprises a first anchor corresponding to a first URL, receiving a user input corresponding to the user selecting the first anchor (user activation of a link) and redisplaying the first web page, wherein content (text, formatting or image formation) associated with the selected anchor is elided (deleted, eliminated), as recited in column 2, lines 21-32 and 42-52.

Referring to claims 2 and 18, Logan et al. teach the content comprising text, as recited in column 2, lines 28-32.

Referring to claims 3 and 19, Logan et al. teach the content comprising a graphic (image formations), as recited in column 2, lines 28-32.

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Referring to claims 5 and 21, Logan et al. teach the step of displaying a second web page in the same browser window as the first web page, wherein the second web page corresponds to the selected anchor (browser displays pages corresponding to the user selected link), as recited in column 7, lines 5-17.

Referring to claims 6 and 22, Logan et al. teach the step of displaying a second web page in a browser window other than that in which the first web page is displayed, wherein the second web page corresponds to the selected anchor (displaying a dialog box containing information related to the link when the user selects it by right clicking on it), as recited in column 14, lines 18-25 and lines 55-59.

Referring to claims 7 and 23, Logan et al. teach receiving an “undo elision” command from the user and redisplaying the first web page, wherein the most recently elided anchor is displayed (the method teaches the ability to “refresh content”, therefore redisplaying the original content of the web page), as recited in column 9, lines 33-35.

Referring to claims 8 and 24, Logan et al. teach receiving an “undo elision” command from the user and redisplaying the first web page, wherein all previously elided anchors are displayed (refreshing the content of the page, displaying all the original content of the web page), as recited in column 9, lines 33-35.

Referring to claims 11 and 27, Logan et al. teach storing information corresponding to the selected first anchor in a data file on a computer system, receiving a new source file corresponding to the first web page (storing information regarding links in a file on the machine and creating a new file containing information regarding the links when selected by the user) and

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redisplaying the first web page based on the new copy of the source file, wherein the first anchor is elided, as recited in column 2, lines 11-17 and 33-47.

Referring to claims 15 and 31, Logan et al. teach displaying a second web page, wherein in the second web page, second content corresponding to the first selected anchor is elided (a supplemental second page is displayed during the transition between pages where the content associated with the selected link is deleted), as recited in column 2, lines 21-32.

Referring to claims 16 and 32, Logan et al. teach the second web page being displayed in a second window other than the window in which the first web page is displayed (displaying a pop-up menu, which corresponds to a user selecting a "white space", text or image anchor in a different window than the first display), as recited in column 14, lines 18-25.

Referring to claims 36 and 37, Logan et al. teach the data file being a browser client's (user's) log file (user information is stored in a log file), as recited in column 19, lines 33-36.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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4. Claims 12 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan et al. U.S. Patent 5,761,683, as applied to the claims above, and further in view of Cezar et al. U.S. Patent 6,161,127.

Referring to claims 12 and 28, while Logan et al. teach all of the limitations as applied to the claims above, they fail to teach storing information in a cookie. Cezar et al. teach an Internet advertising display system. This system stores files regarding information to be displayed on a browser similar to that of Logan et al. In addition, Cezar et al. further teach storing information in the browser cookie, as recited in column 1, lines 25-26 and column 5, lines 7-10. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Logan et al. and Cezar et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the display method and medium taught by Logan et al. to include the use of cookies to store information, as taught by Cezar et al. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because for example, by storing data on a cookie, the user would not have to re-authenticate the information when he visits the website again.

5. Claims 13-14 and 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan et al. U.S. Patent 5,761,683, as applied to the claims above, and further in view of Freishtat et al. U.S. Patent 5,945,989.

Referring to claims 13 and 29, Logan et al. teach all of the limitations as applied to the claims above. Specifically, they teach eliding web page content, as recited in column 2, lines 21-32 and 42-52. However, Logan et al. fail to teach selectively eliding content based on whether the second web page was successfully displayed. Freishtat et al. teach a method for altering

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website content similar to that of Logan et al. In addition, Freishtat et al. further teach selectively eliding (updating the content such as adding or deleting information) the content from the web page based on certain conditions (such as commands including personal identification), as recited in column 23, lines 55-63. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Logan et al. and Freishtat et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the content eliding method of Logan et al. to include the selective modification of content based on a certain condition, as taught by Freishtat et al., in order to obtain selective elision of content based on the condition of whether display of the second web page was completed. It would have been advantageous for one to utilize such a combination in order to add a layer of security to the updating of website content. By deleting content based on a certain condition, the problem of accidentally deleting important information would be alleviated, since it would be harder to add or delete information because of the added layer of conditions the users have to meet, such as verifying a personal identification.

Referring to claims 14 and 30, Logan et al. teach all of the limitations as applied to the claims above. Specifically, they teach eliding web page content, as recited in column 2, lines 21-32 and 42-52. However, Logan et al. fail to teach selectively eliding content based on whether the display of the second web page resulted in an error. Freishtat et al. teach a method for altering website content similar to that of Logan et al. In addition, Freishtat et al. further teach selectively eliding (updating the content such as adding or deleting information) the content from the web page based on certain conditions (such as commands including personal identification), as recited in column 23, lines 55-63. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Logan et al. and Freishtat et al. before him at the time the invention

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was made, to modify the content eliding method of Logan et al. to include the selective modification of content based on a certain condition, as taught by Freishtat et al., in order to obtain selective elision of content based on the condition of whether display of the second web page resulted in an error. It would have been advantageous for one to utilize such a combination in order to add a layer of security to the updating of website content. By deleting content based on a certain condition, the problem of accidentally deleting important information would be alleviated, since it would be harder to add or delete information because of the added layer of conditions the users have to meet, such as verifying a personal identification.

6. Claims 33-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan et al. U.S. Patent 5,761,683, as applied to the claims above, and further in view of Nielsen U.S. Patent 6,021,435.

Referring to claim 33, Logan et al. teach all of the limitations as applied to the claims above. Specifically, Logan et al. teach the formatting (eliding) and display of hyperlinks, as recited in column 2, lines 21-32 and 42-52. However, they fail to teach the display of elidable and non-elidable hyperlinks in different colors. Nielsen teaches a method for displaying links similar to that of Logan et al. In addition, he further teaches the display of available links in a certain color (such as blue) and the display of unavailable links in a different color (such as black), as recited in column 1, lines 26-27, column 2, lines 1-5 and column 3, lines 47-51. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Logan et al. and Nielsen before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the method of Logan et al. to include the display of hyperlinks in different colors, as taught by Nielsen, in order to display

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elidable hyperlinks in a first color and non-elidable hyperlinks in a different second color. One would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to allow users to easily distinguish at a glance, what information can and cannot be hidden or minimized to reduce displayed web page clutter.

Referring to claim 34, while Logan et al. teach all of the limitations as applied to the claims above, they fail to teach the user specifying the first and second colors. Nielsen teaches giving users the option to set the different display colors to distinguish between hyperlinks, as recited in column 4, lines 63-66. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Logan et al. and Nielsen before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the method of Logan et al. to include allowing users to specify the different colors for the hyperlinks, as taught by Nielsen. It would have been advantageous for one to utilize such a combination in order to allow users to easily distinguish at a glance, what information can and cannot be hidden or minimized to reduce displayed web page clutter. Allowing users to set these colors according to their preferences make it even easier to distinguish hyperlink information.

7. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan et al. U.S. Patent 5,761,683.

Referring to claim 35, Logan et al. teach a method of selecting anchors to elide on a web page, comprising the steps of displaying a first web page on a display screen, wherein the first web page comprises a first anchor (link) corresponding to a first URL, receiving a user input corresponding to the user selecting the first anchor and wherein content associated with the selected anchor is elided (deleted) if the user selects the anchor and not elided if the user does not

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select the anchor (the information is selectively altered according to user selection), as recited in column 2, lines 21-32 and 42-52. Although Logan et al. do not explicitly teach the user input comprising a user selecting an anchor and a second predefined input (such as a keystroke); Logan et al. teach the eliding of content based upon user activation of a link. Therefore, it would be obvious that the activation of a link could include many inputs, including selection of a link, in addition to a second input, such as a keystroke. The examiner takes Official Notice of this teaching. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to include a first and second input in the activation of a link in order to provide content protection. By adding another layer of input requirements (such as a certain keystroke combination), the unintended deletion or addition of information resulting from pressing a key by accident could be better avoided.

8. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach similar methods for updating and displaying content information.

Conclusion

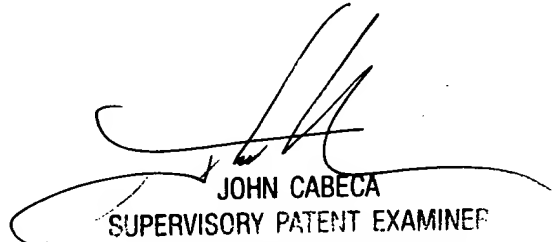
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ting Zhou whose telephone number is (703) 305-0328. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:00am - 4:30pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (703) 308-3116. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

January 22, 2004



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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